

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Compensator for use in a liquid crystal display (LCD) of the bend mode, characterized in that it comprises
 - at least one retardation film having an extraordinary axis substantially parallel to the film plane (A plate),
 - at least one retardation film having an extraordinary axis tilted at an angle θ between 0° and 90° relative to the film plane (O plate), and
 - at least one retardation film having an optical axis substantially perpendicular to the film plane and having a refractive index in the direction perpendicular to the film plane that is smaller than the refractive indices in the directions parallel to the film plane (negative C plate).
2. (Original) Compensator according to claim 1, characterized in that it comprises two A plates, one negative C plate and one O plate having a tilt angle that varies in a direction perpendicular to the film plane (splayed O plate).
3. (Currently Amended) Compensator according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the A plate and/or O plate and/or C plate comprise polymerised or crosslinked liquid crystal material.
4. (Currently Amended) Compensator according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 3~~, characterized in that the optical retardation of the individual A, O and C plates of the compensator are selected such that the following equations are fulfilled

$$d_A \cdot \Delta n_A / d_{LC} \cdot \Delta n_{LC} = 0.115 \pm 0.1$$

$$d_O \cdot \Delta n_O / d_{LC} \cdot \Delta n_{LC} = 0.129 \pm 0.1$$

$$d_C \cdot \Delta n_C / d_{LC} \cdot \Delta n_{LC} = 0.245 \pm 0.2$$

wherein d is the layer or film thickness, Δn is the birefringence, $d_A \cdot \Delta n_A$ is the retardation of the A plate, $d_O \cdot \Delta n_O$ is the retardation of the O plate, $d_C \cdot \Delta n_C$ is the

retardation of the of the negative C plate, and $d_{LC}\Delta n_{LC}$ is the retardation of the switchable LC cell of the display.

5. (Currently Amended) Compensator according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 4~~, characterized in that the optical retardation $d_A\Delta n_A$ of the A plate is from 70 to 110 nm.
6. (Currently Amended) Compensator according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 5~~, characterized in that is positioned in the display such that one of the A plates ('outer A plate') is situated on the side of the compensator facing away from the switchable LC cell.
7. (Currently Amended) LCD of the optically compensated bend (OCB) or pi-cell mode, characterized in that it comprises at least one compensator according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 6~~.
8. (Currently Amended) LCD comprising a switchable LC cell with a layer of an LC medium having bend alignment and positive dielectric anisotropy $\Delta\epsilon$ between two plane parallel electrodes at least one of which is transparent to incident light, and at least one polariser or two polarisers sandwiching the LC layer and the electrodes, characterized in that it comprises on each side of the LC cell at least one compensator according to claim 1 ~~at least one of claims 1 to 6~~.
9. (Currently Amended) LCD according to claim 7 wherein ~~or 8, characterized in that one of said compensators according to at least one of claims 1 to 6~~ is positioned on each side of the switchable LC cell of the LCD such that the stack of individual A, O and C plates in both compensators is symmetrical with respect to the LC cell.
10. (Original) LCD according to claim 9, characterized in that the position of the individual films in the compensator is selected from the following configurations 1) to 12)

1)	A	-C	← O	A	LC	A	O →	-C	A
2)	A	-C	A	← O	LC	O →	A	-C	A

3)	A	-C	O →	A	LC	A	← O	-C	A
4)	A	-C	A	O →	LC	← O	A	-C	A
5)	A	← O	-C	A	LC	A	-C	O →	A
6)	A	A	-C	← O	LC	O →	-C	A	A
7)	A	O →	-C	A	LC	A	-C	← O	A
8)	A	A	-C	O →	LC	← O	-C	A	A
9)	A	A	← O	-C	LC	-C	O →	A	A
10)	A	← O	A	-C	LC	-C	A	O →	A
11)	A	A	O →	-C	LC	-C	← O	A	A
12)	A	O →	A	-C	LC	-C	A	← O	A

wherein A is a planar A plate, O is a tilted or splayed O plate, -C is a negative C plate, LC is the switchable LC cell of the display, and the arrows denote the direction of increasing tilt angle in a splayed O plate.